Application No.: 10/702,462 Docket No.: 1630-0833PUS1

Reply to Office Action of February 11, 2011 Page 2 of 7

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-11. (Canceled)

12. (Currently Amended) A network system, comprising:

a plurality of <u>network</u> devices connected to a network, each of the plurality of network

devices transmitting and receiving data through the network; and

a managing device configured to control the network and to manage the network based

on network state information used for controlling the network,

wherein when a new device is connected to the network, the managing device determines

whether the new device is to be a new network device or a device managing the networker not

the new device is to be a new managing device, and if the new device is determined to be the

new managing device managing the network, the managing device transmits the managed

network state information to the new device.

13. (Currently Amended) The network system according to claim 12, wherein when

the new device receives the network state information, the new device controls the network

based on the received network state information.

14. (Previously Presented) The network system according to claim 12, wherein when

the new device is connected to the network, the new device transmits an address of the new

device to the managing device.

Application No.: 10/702,462 Docket No.: 1630-0833PUS1

Reply to Office Action of February 11, 2011

Page 3 of 7

15. (Currently Amended) A method for configuring a network comprising:

entering, by a new device, into the network, wherein a plurality of <u>network</u> devices is

connected to the network and each of the plurality of <u>network</u> devices transmits and receives data

through the network;

determining, by a managing device, whether or not a new the new device is to be a new

managing network device or a device managing the network, wherein the managing device

controls the network and manages the network based on network state information used for

controlling the network; and

transmitting, by the managing device, the managed network state information to the

entered new device when the new device is determined to be the managing device managing the

network.

16. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 15, further comprising:

controlling, by the new device, the network based on the received network state

information.

17. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 15, further comprising:

transmitting, by the new device, an address of the new device to the managing device.

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

EHC/JK/jk